

Old Age, Disability, Death

First and current law: 1976.

Type of program: Provident fund system (lump-sum benefits only).

Exchange rate: U.S.\$1.00 equals 1.57 Australian dollars (A\$).

Coverage

Employed persons aged 14 and older earning at least A\$10 a month.

Exclusion: Domestic servants.

Source of Funds

Insured person: 5% of earnings.

Employer: 5% of payroll.

Government: None.

A\$5 per person deducted annually from each provident fund account for death benefit program (except for persons who have left covered employment).

Qualifying Conditions

Old-age benefit: Age 50. (Payable at age 45 if actually retired from employment, with evidence of intention to retire permanently; at any age if emigrating permanently).

Disability grant: Physical or mental incapacity for work.

Survivor grant: Deceased was insured and had not withdrawn any part of the amount credited.

Old-Age Benefits

Old-age benefit: Lump sum equal to total employee and employer contributions, plus 9% accumulated interest.

Permanent Disability Benefits

Disability grant: Lump sum equal to total employee and employer contributions, plus 9% accumulated interest.

Survivor Benefits

Survivor grant: Lump sum equal to total employee and employer contributions, plus 9% accumulated interest.

Payable to deceased's nominee.

Death benefit: A\$1,000 maximum.

Administrative Organization

National Provident Fund Board, administration of program. Board membership consists of two representatives each from government, employers, and employees.

Government: None.

Qualifying Conditions

Work-injury benefits: No minimum qualifying period.

Occupational disease: Incapacity or death occurred during employment or within 12 months after the employment ended.

Temporary Disability Benefits

Temporary disability benefit: 50%-100% of earnings, inversely proportionate to level of earnings. Maximum, A\$160 a month. Total payment not to exceed lump sum payable for permanent (total or partial) disability (see below). Payable after 3-day waiting period.

Permanent Disability Benefits

Permanent disability grant: Lump sum of 48 months' earnings or A\$6,000, whichever is less. Minimum, A\$500.

Constant-attendance supplement: 25% of grant.

Partial disability: Lump sum in proportion to degree of incapacity, according to schedule. Total payment not to exceed full benefit under permanent total disability.

Workers' Medical Benefits

Medical benefit: Medical and surgical care.

Survivor Benefits

Survivor grant: Lump sum of 36 months' earnings or A\$6,000, whichever is less. Minimum, A\$400.

Funeral grant (if no survivors): Burial expenses up to A\$30.

Administrative Organization

Department of Labor, enforcement of law.

Employers may insure liability with approved insurance companies.

Please note: This information is more than 10 years old.

Work Injury

First and current law: 1949.

Type of program: Employer liability/compulsory insurance with private carrier.

Coverage

Employed persons earning A\$4,000 a year or less.

Exclusion: Casual employees.

Source of Funds

Insured person: None.

Employer: Whole cost.